BAKER & DANIELS

111 E. WAYNE STREET, SUITE 800 · FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46802 · (219) 424-8000 · FAX (219) 460-1700 · www.bakerdaniels.com

MICHAEL S. GZYBOWSKI
OF COUNSEL
DIRECT (219) 460-1661
e-mail: mgzybows@bakord.com

September 6, 2001

INDIANAPOLIS
FORT WAYNE
SOUTH BEND
ELKHART
WASHINGTON, D.C.
QINGDAO, P.R. CHINA

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent & Trademark Office Attn: Ronald Hack - Acting Chief Information Officer Washington, DC 20231

Re: Docket Number 010126025-1025-01

RIN 0651-AB34

Title: Notice of request for Comments on Development of a plan to remove the Patent and Trademark Classification Paper Files From the Public Search Facilities

Dear Sir:

As requested, I am responding to your request published in the August 27, 2001 Official Gazette.

Replacing the paper files with electronic files is fine as long as a paper backup in class and subclass order is maintained. Too many times the electronic database system is off line for either a number of hours or a number of days. This would present a problem when an individual attempts to perform a search in the USPTO's public search library. In this day and age of hackers and viruses, I feel the electronic system will become more vulnerable to such events and a paper backup is the only option.

To recap, while I do support the action of creating and maintaining a state-of-the-art electronic system, I think it would be in everyone's best interest to maintain a paper backup just as you have for so many years.

Respectfully yours,

Michael S. Gzybowski